

FINE MEETING OF SUNDAY-SCHOOLS

Forty-Second Annual Methodist Union Association Held Services Yesterday.

AN INTERESTING PROGRAM

Contract to Be Awarded for Improving Channel of Appomattox River.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] PETERSBURG, VA., May 17.—A splendid spirit of unity and co-operation characterized the forty-second annual meeting of the Methodist Sunday School Union Association, of Petersburg and vicinity, which was held at the Washington Street Methodist Church at half-past 3 o'clock this afternoon with a big congregation in attendance. Large delegations from each of the eight schools composing the organization took part in the extensive program, which began with a voluntary song by the Washington Street school, the whole congregation then singing as the opening hymn: "How Firm a Foundation, Ye Saints of the Lord." After the repeating of the creed, in which the congregation was led by the superintendent of the Blandford school, Mr. James B. Blanks, led in prayer.

Among the features of a beautiful musical program were the singing of "Lead Kindly Light" and "The Lord is My Shepherd" by the orphan quartet, and "Songs That Mother Sang," which was most attractively rendered by a quartet from Market Street Church.

After the roll call of officers Secretary N. C. Wells read the following reports for the past month:

| Roll. | Attend. | P.C. | Coll. |
|---------------|---------|------|---------|
| High Street | 678 | 541 | \$35.74 |
| West End | 328 | 228 | 34.01 |
| Market Street | 268 | 204 | 21.39 |
| Wesley | 262 | 166 | 84.20 |
| West Street | 239 | 212 | 73.17 |
| Patrick | 206 | 227 | 74.14 |
| Blandford | 110 | 85 | 7.78 |
| Matoca | 195 | 170 | 87.15 |

Totals 2,376 1,631 77 \$161.74

President C. T. Wilkinson read his annual report, speaking in most encouraging language of the progress and work of the association, and expressing his gratitude and appreciation of the assistance given him by the officers and teachers. Mr. Wilkinson announced no comparative statistics, but referred especially to the proposed erection of the new Memorial Church in the West End.

Superintendent Williamson, of the Washington Street School, announced with much regret that Mr. Edward F. Shaffer, of Court Street Methodist Church, Lynchburg, who had been expected to deliver the address this afternoon, had telegraphed that he was unable to come because of illness. Mr. Williamson then called on Rev. Mr. Babcock, pastor of Wesley Church; Rev. J. T. Routten, of West Street Church; and Rev. J. B. Winn, of West Street Church, who spoke briefly. Secretary E. L. Mann, of the Nominating Committee, reported the following nominations, which were unanimously adopted: President, Itham R. Dyer, of High Street Sunday school; Treasurer, W. H. Dill, of Blandford school; Secretary, N. C. Wells, West Street school; Assistant Secretary, M. B. Cogbill, Washington Street school.

DEEPER CHANNEL.

The following bids for the contract for dredging an eighty-foot channel in the Appomattox River, twelve feet deep, from Point of Rocks, seven miles and a half below Petersburg, up to the dam now being constructed at Pohantahs bridge, just opposite the city, for the diversion of the water into the new channel now nearly completed, have been opened in the office of the United States Engineer in Charge, Atlantic Dredging Company, of Philadelphia, \$32,000; Maryland Dredging Company, of Baltimore, \$33,000; French & Teurs, of Norfolk, \$36,100; C. A. Enoch Engineering Company, of Norfolk, \$35,000; Contracting Dredging Company, of Norfolk, \$40,000; P. Sanford Ross, of New York, \$42,520. The work is to be done for the United States government, and the contract has to be approved by the Chief of Engineers of the United States Army and by the Secretary of War. It is understood that the contract will probably be awarded within the next thirty days, and that the work will commence early next month. The Atlantic Dredging Company, whose bid is the lowest, has been at work on the diversion of the river for the past three years.

CREWE'S NEW HIGH SCHOOL.

Splendid Building Dedicated With Very Interesting Exercises.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] CREWE, VA., May 17.—Friday was "public school day," the occasion being the dedication of the new high school building just completed. It is of brick, an up-to-date building in every part and reflects great credit on the School Board and the community and all who were interested in the great work of providing such beautiful surroundings for the youth of the town and surrounding country. A most interesting program was prepared and ably carried out by Professor S. A. Wood, principal of the school.

The entire morning was given over to the teachers and children. Promptly at 9:30 a large crowd of patrons and friends gathered at the school grounds and listened to the strains of sweet music as rendered by the White Ribbon Band, of Petersburg, which consists of twenty pieces. Then a march was made to the baseball grounds to witness a game between Crewe and Farmville. At 2 P. M. the crowd again assembled in the school grounds and marched to the park, where seats had been provided for all. The exercises closed with prayer by Rev. J. W. Kinchloe, Professor Wood introduced the Rev. J. W. Kinchloe, of Farmville, who addressed the assembly. The exercises were held in the school grounds and were most successful.

DOCTORS OF SOUTHSIDE.

Medical Association to Meet at Emporia Next Month.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] EMPORIA, VA., May 17.—The meeting of the Southern Medical Association, which comprises the counties of the Southside section of the

BRYAN'S SON-IN-LAW



WILLIAM HOMER LEAVITT.

The artist son-in-law of William J. Bryan, who, it is reported, has been brutally beaten in Paris. Mr. Leavitt was attacked by a model named Canina in the courtyard of his studio in the Rue Falguieres. The young artist was badly beaten about the head, and the bones in his left hand were crushed by the blows of a club. His assailant fared even worse, for Leavitt struck him with an iron hammer, fracturing his skull. Canina was arrested and removed by the police to a hospital, where he now lies in a dangerous condition. Leavitt, after making the complaint, went immediately to the American Embassy, and through Mr. White's intervention obtained permission to carry a revolver.

TO REOPEN MILITARY SCHOOL

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] DANVILLE, VA., May 17.—An enthusiastic meeting of the committee recently appointed by the Danville Commercial Association to solicit subscriptions for a new boys' academy, to be operated on the old Danville Military Institute property, was held to-day at noon at the Commercial Bank. The committee has been more or less successful in raising contributions, and the movement has been met with universal approval. The need of a boys' school here has been discussed ever since the military institute was suspended. Despite the fact that many similar schemes have been on foot recently in Danville which necessitated large contributions, the committee is hopeful that the \$25,000 needed for the school

can be raised. The contributions for the new \$40,000 Young Men's Christian Association are now falling due, and five of the churches in the city are raising funds for new improvements or for improvements already made. In canvassing, the committee has to encounter these obstacles, and many citizens would contribute more freely except for the fact that the generosity has been appealed to for numerous other projects. Eleven thousand dollars for the school has already been subscribed. The option on the Danville Military Institute property expires on Monday, but arrangements will likely be made to have it extended. The option price is \$8,500. An active canvass will be inaugurated during the course of the next few days for the remainder of the funds.

NEWSPAPER MEN ENGAGE IN FIGHT

Mr. Crater Strikes Mr. Drewry. Charges That Credits on His Account Were Not Made.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] RALEIGH, N. C., May 17.—Mr. Geo. B. Crater, former business manager of the Raleigh News and Observer, and now on the business staff of the Georgian, Atlanta, whose household goods were attached here last week by Receiver Jno. C. Drewry, on a note for \$524, which Drewry had endorsed for Crater and had to pay, is here to defend himself against the charges and protect his interest. In a conference between Crater, his attorney and Jno. C. Drewry, Receiver, place and their attorneys, Crater made an assault upon Mr. Drewry, and but for the intervention of others in the office a serious hand-to-hand encounter would have resulted. As it was not more than a blow each was passed and neither was hurt. The encounter was in the office of Womack, of Hayes, attorneys. Mr. Crater asked the pardon of these gentlemen for precipitating the disorder, but declared his determination to settle the scores with Mr. Drewry. He claims that the present management of the Times has credited him with only \$100 per month, and that if proper salary credits are entered his account will be even. He has been accused by the sheriff of having released his household goods from the attachment pending the litigation. Drewry refused to answer any questions asked by Mr. Crater as to Crater's business relations with the Times, and it was this attitude by Mr. Crater, the president, the assistant, Mr. Crater, that he has no connection with the Times management now, the receiver being in charge.

THE NEWS OF WILSON.

Dr. Dixon Closes Meeting—College and Schools Close.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] WILSON, N. C., May 17.—Rev. A. C. Dixon, of this city, who has been conducting a union meeting here under the auspices of several churches of Wilson, concluded the meeting last night and left for Chicago. The meetings were held in the Planters' Warehouse, and were largely attended. The business houses each day closed during the services.

The Atlantic Christian College this week closed its session with appropriate exercises. The past year has been a good one for the college in many respects, but the institution sustained during the spring the loss of its president, Dr. Harper. Dr. Harper has been succeeded by Dr. J. C. Caldwell, a graduate of Yale University and formerly the pastor of the Wilson Christian Church.

Prohibition Rally.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] SALISBURY, N. C., May 17.—The anti-prohibition leaders have arranged for a big rally in Salisbury on the 24th instant, when Colonel A. M. Waddell, of Wilmington, Judge Thomas A. Jones, of Asheville, Walter R. Henry, of Charlotte, and Mayor A. H. Boyden, of Salisbury, will speak. Two bands have been engaged for the occasion under the direction of Mayor Boyden, who is State chairman of the anti-prohibition forces in North Carolina.

Patron Installed.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] LYNCHBURG, VA., May 17.—The formal installation of Dr. Wallace T. Palmer as pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church took place at the morning service to-day. Dr. James Dunlop Paxton, pastor of First Church, preached the installation sermon, while the Rev. Belling Hobson, superintendent of the Presbyterian Orphanage, delivered the charge to the pastor, and the Rev. P. S. Hill, pastor of Rivermont Avenue Church, delivered the charge to the congregation. Dr. Palmer came here recently from the leading Presbyterian church in New Orleans, La.

HOUSE FULL OF WILD ANIMALS

L. C. Crouch Lives in Room Surrounded by Poisonous Snakes.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] HIGH POINT, N. C., May 17.—Mr. L. C. Crouch, of this city, owns one of the best menageries in the country. He would be killed in a house near the High Point Metallic Bed Company's plant, as far as human beings are concerned, but he has lots of company in the way of snakes and animals of various kinds. On being invited to his home and ushered into a room, one finds himself surrounded by snakes creeping along on the floor and animals of various kinds in boxes. Mr. Crouch assures the timid stranger that there is no harm from the snakes; that they are well trained and under his control. Mr. Crouch has a variety of snakes in his house, and some of them are very rare. He has his moccasins, hissing adders, black snakes, and various other kinds too numerous to mention. Opening a little closet, he produced what he called his pet. In answer to a whistle, out came the largest snake he had, which Mr. Crouch took on his arm and fondled it. 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